

KINDERGARTEN

Children as Citizens: An Introduction to Social Studies

Standard K-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of key American figures and symbols.

K-3.1 Recognize the significance of things that exemplify the values and principles of American democracy, including the Pledge of Allegiance, songs such as “The Star-Spangled Banner” (our national anthem) and “America the Beautiful,” and the American flag. (H, P)

Taxonomy Level: A 1 Remember/ Factual Knowledge

Previous/future knowledge: This is the students’ first introduction to the values and principles of American Democracy. In first grade students will recognize the basic values of American democracy, including respect for the rights and opinions of others, fair treatment for everyone, and respect for the rules by which we live (1-4.1). While in fourth grade (4-4.3) students will explain the role of the Bill of Rights in the ratification of the Constitution, including how the Constitution serves to guarantee the rights of the individual and protect the common good yet also to limit the powers of government.

It is essential for students to know that the “Star Spangled Banner” is our national anthem and should recognize the song. It is also essential for students to recognize the song “America the Beautiful” and know that it exemplifies the values and principles of American democracy. Students should also recognize the American flag and understand its significance as a symbol of American values and principles. Further, students should understand that it is appropriate to say the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag with your hand over your heart and to recognize the pledge when they hear it.

It is not essential for students to know the words to the “Star Spangled Banner” or “America the Beautiful”. It is also not essential for students to be able to recite verbatim the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

Assessment guidelines:

Appropriate assessment requires students to *recognize* the significance of things that exemplify the values and principles of American democracy; therefore the primary focus of assessment should be to *identify* the “Pledge of Allegiance”, “The Star Spangled Banner” “America the Beautiful” and our American flag. However, appropriate assessments should also require students to *identify* from a picture, drawing, or recording the “Pledge of Allegiance”, the “Star Spangled Banner”, “America the Beautiful” and the American flag.